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Sailing Expedition Sample Itinerary

Sailors arrive the day the trip starts and lodge at a local hotel of their choice for the first night. We recommend The Hideaways at Palm Bay or another hotel located close to George Town. Dinner the first night will be with the entire group and on us at a local restaurant. This will be your chance to meet everyone else on the trip as we go over trip plans, issue dry bags and find out what everyone's expectations are for the coming days. We will confirm the pick-up time and locations for the following morning.

After a relaxing evening we will meet you the next morning to sort through personal gear and travel to the northern end of Great Exuma to a small settlement called Barraterre. Be sure to grab some breakfast before you leave, you'll want to start the day with a full belly. Once in Barraterre, we will pack the Sea Pearls and meet the support boat to start your sailing expedition up the Exuma Cays. Feel free to leave any extra luggage behind and we will return it to you upon your return to Great Exuma. The trip will be made in 21' Sea Pearls with a support boat. You will be expected to be able to sail your own boat or at least learn from others during the trip. Familiarizing everyone with the boats and final preparation of the Sea Pearls will take place before our first sail.



Weather and the time of our departure will determine our first campsite. Your Sea Pearl will carry your personal gear, sleeping sacks, tent, sleeping pads, camp chairs, a cooler and you, of course. We usually make it as far as Lignumvitae Cay, about 15 miles from Barraterre. We will set up camp together, have dinner and start to relax into the rhythm of the tides and beach.

Our next leg of the trip will take you up through the Darby Islands, passed Rudder Cut, Musha and Cave Cay to the beautiful cove beach on Big Farmers Cay where we will call home for the next 2 nights. During the layover day here we will visit the quaint local Bahamian settlement on Little Farmers Cay and mingle with the laid back locals, do some deep sea fishing, spearfishing, stroll the sandbar, and of course, relax on the beach! This is also a good chance for those learning to spend some extra time in the sailboats while in the protection of the sheltered cove. If all goes according to plan, we will be cooking fresh fish over the fire and gazing at the stars with full bellies!

Day 4, it's time to continue our trek north. We will sail passed Great Guana Cay, the longest cay in The Exumas, 10 miles long. Our destination is Bitter Guana Cay, or somewhere close to Staniel Cay for the final two nights. Here we spend the extra layover day in the power boat, driving home all the best that the Exumas has to offer: Thunderball Grotto (Bond, James Bond), The Swimming Pigs, The Land & Sea Park, Johnny Depps Island...etc etc etc. You get the idea. We spend the day cruising further up the cays and see some great sights and excellent snorkeling, then return back to camp for the final night of camping. Most of the time



we are sharing the island with the endangered Bahamian Rock Iguana on Bitter Guana Cay, but it could be somewhere else nearby.



For the final day we pack up camp for the last time and sail into Staniel Cay. Now it's time to say goodbye to the sailboats and hello to fresh showers and clean clothes! We will get settled into our lodging on Staniel Cay for the final night and get cleaned up. We will meet one more time as a group for dinner that night at one of the local restaurants or the yacht club, but you will have most of the afternoon to explore Staniel Cay or simply relax in your room.

The final morning you will meet your pilot on the runway, a stone's throw from your lodging, for your charter flight back to George Town. Now you get to fly back over the entire adventure you just had, and be sure to keep an eye out for the power boat towing back all the sea pearls! We will be waiting for you at the airport in George Town with any luggage you left with us and to say our goodbyes with hugs, cause let's face it, we're all friends after the week we've just had!

*** This is an expedition style trip- distances and places visited will depend on conditions at the time of the trip. Also keep in mind that the trip can be strenuous as everyone will be helping to set up and break camp each day. Once those duties are taken care of everyone can relax and enjoy the sailing, clear blue water, fantastic sunsets and good food & drink!**

Things to keep in mind-

- When nature calls: *Out-Island Explorers* maintains a leave no trace camping policy with our guided trips and rentals. We will be taking along a portable toilet and a privacy tent for your use. Please be considerate of your surroundings and use the appropriate facilities. All trash and waste will be carried out with us.
- Sanitation: It is so important to keep things as healthy and safe as we can while on an expedition. We can all help by doing our part to keep the germs at bay. Hand sanitizer will be available for meal times and another will stay with the toilet, use it liberally.
- Everyone is expected to participate in packing/unpacking your boat, setting up/breaking camp, and possibly carrying community items (food, cooking supplies, tents, water, etc) in your boat. The gear will be equally distributed.
- If you are used to having specific items readily available please remember that you are coming to an isolated out-island that requires a lot of effort to get anything in and out of here. If you would like to make special requests, we will be happy to hear them, but please bear in mind that we may not be able to meet your request 100% (we will try our best).
- Gratuity is not included in the trip price. Tips are not expected, but are always appreciated. You will see your guides for the last time in Staniel Cay.

